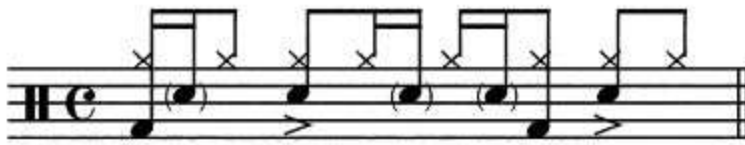


Creating beats lesson 17: 4th September 2020

Hi, and welcome to another lesson on 'beat making'. Today we will continue studying the 6th element that can enhance your breakbeats. If you missed, please go back to lesson 16 as we will be developing from where we left on the last lesson.

The Fourth way in which you can use syncopated (off-beat) snares is:

Displacing the back beat of beats 2 or 4 to the the 'and' of 2 or 4



1	e	&	a	2	e	&	a	3	e	&	a	4	e	&	a
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

*

Above there is a 'straight' rhythm with the > accents on 2 and 4

Now, lets displace the accent of 4 to the '&' of 4



1	e	&	a	2	e	&	a	3	e	&	a	4	e	&	a
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Again, notice the drawn out, "stretching" feeling this syncopation creates for the beat.

Now listen how it sounds in the following song. Remember to count to the beat and notice the snare in the “&” of 4.



“Cold Sweat (Pt. 1)”

James Brown

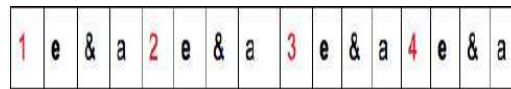
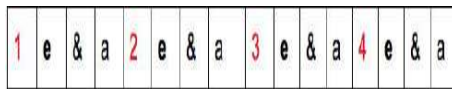
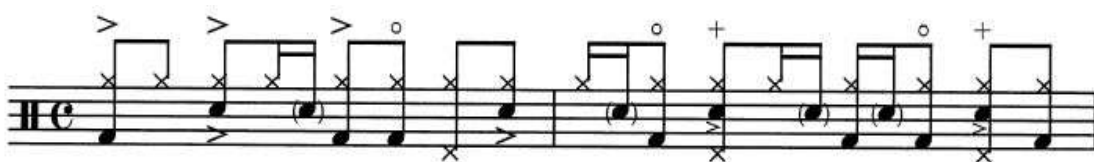
released as a single (King, 1967)

Speed: 111 bpm. (beats per minute)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8bztE5lbQOo&ab_channel=MrArs13

This song introduced Syncopation (this off-beat feel) to pop Music.

At the start of the song the groove is:



Another song will show you very clearly how it sounds when we displace the back beat:



“75 Bars (Black's Reconstruction)”

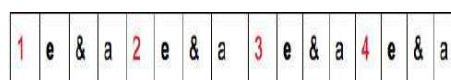
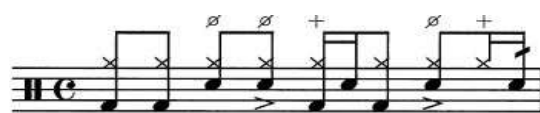
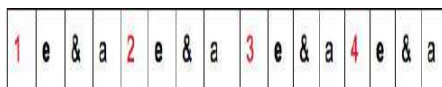
The Roots

Rising Dunes (Def Jam, 2008)

Speed: 108 bpm

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5pcu6dbTb00&ab_channel=TheRootsVEVO

After the drum roll the break at 4 seconds into the song is straight. Keep looking at the timer and you will notice that the break shifts the backbeat at 12 seconds, giving it an off-beat quality.



>

At 4 seconds the accent (>) is on beat 2

>

at 12 seconds it shifts to the & of 2



"UMI Says"

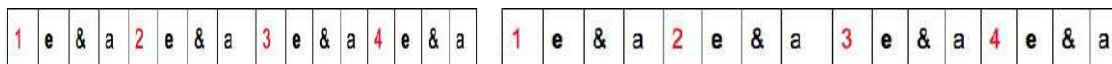
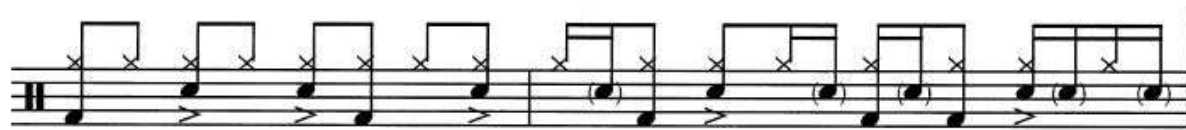
Mos Def

Black on Both Sides (Rawkus, 1999)

Speed: 121 bpm.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mcxLFXbECsY&ab_channel=kmir224

This is one of the tightest beats of all time. You'll find this kind of beat all over different boogaloo and funk songs. The beat is a 4-bar phrase. The first and third bars have accented snare notes on beat 2 and 3 as well as the '&' of 4 the second and fourth bars have accented snare notes on beats 2 and 4. (also notice the ghost notes (o) that sound much softer.



Well done for making it to the end of today's lesson.

I hope you enjoyed learning about the sixth element. If you have access to Logic, please try to experiment with this concept. Otherwise we will try them out in the classroom very soon on the 21st of September when we will have the chance to put all of these lessons into practice.